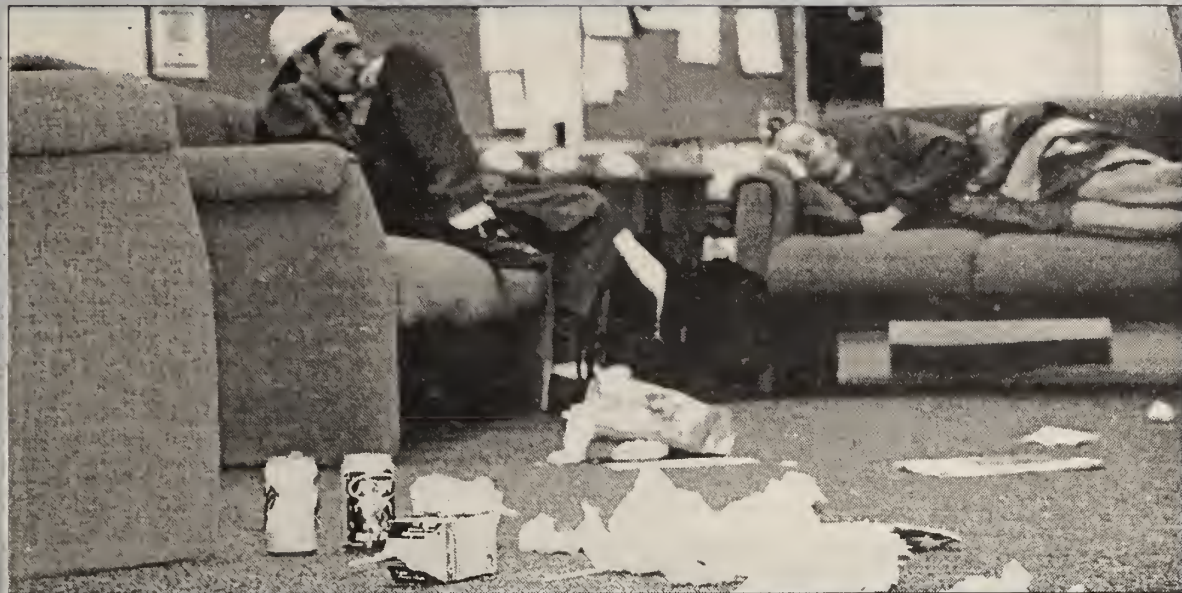


Conestoga's pigpen



First-year woodworking students, George Jurca (left) and Jason Beninger, relax between classes amongst the garbage on the floor and tables of the Sanctuary, Jan. 9. See page 6 for story. (Photo by Heather Milburn Graham)

This week in the news

DSA goes furniture shopping

The DSA will be purchasing approximately \$12,700 worth of furniture to increase the comfort level of the Sanctuary.

For details see page 2

Student loan plan may get overhaul

The times they are a changin', especially in the Ontario Student Loan Program. Financial aid officer Carol Walsh outlines some changes that might be expected this year.

For details see page 3

Campus security improves

A number of safety features find a home at Doon campus as security continues to improve safety for staff and students.

For details see page 6

A fond farewell

Marilyn Fischer, Conestoga College's senior health services nurse, has become one of the first college employees to accept a buy-out package. After 24 years, she is saying goodbye.

For details see page 7

A whole lot of love to give

Conestoga's Alumni Association has just the thing to help make Valentine's Day a bit brighter for all faculty, staff and students.

For details see page 7

Snow spirit

Conestoga students, family and friends took to the slopes on Jan. 26, at Blue Mountain for a little relaxation and fun in the snow.

For details see page 8

Anarchy with the U.K.

After playing together for six years, United Kingdom, a Cambridge-based punk rock band, played its final show at Loose Screw Production's Punk Rock Bash Friday, Jan. 26.

For details see page 10

Christmas in January for DSA

By Jeannette Cantin

The DSA board of directors decided Jan. 23, it was acceptable to grant its executives a \$50 Christmas bonus, despite the fact the bonuses had been received a month earlier.

A motion to award the bonuses had been agreed to "in principle" at the last DSA board of director's (BOD) meeting on Dec. 12, 1995. Unfortunately, the proceedings of that meeting were not valid as there were too few members present to form a quorum. The issue was therefore carried into the Jan. 23 meeting.

Jack Fletcher, ex officio BOD member, said he advised executive members they would have to return the bonuses if there was serious disagreement from the BOD.

Responding to questions raised about the purpose of the bonus, DSA president Dawn Mittelholtz described it as a "job-well-done bonus similar to that any corporation" would grant its employees at Christmas.

BOD member Ben Noseworthy expressed concern about the determination of deserving recipients. The previous meeting's minutes recorded the bonus

was issued based on "satisfactory work performance."

Noseworthy noted that the completion of satisfactory work was required to receive the honorariums paid to the executives.

"It's not the dollar amount that aggravates me," Noseworthy said. "It's having a bonus for satisfactory work performance."

April-Dawn Blackwell, of the DSA executive, said part of the criteria used to determine eligibility was the demonstration of a commitment level beyond the expected.

Noseworthy led the motion to accept the Christmas bonus.

In other business, the BOD voted to discontinue negotiations with Kitchener Transit regarding universal bus passes. Blackwell, a member of the committee set up to advise BOD on the matter, said Kitchener Transit representatives were vague about the potential for improved transit service should Conestoga accept the proposal.

Kitchener Transit recently announced it was cutting back its night service to the campus effective in March.

After 7 p.m., buses will service the campus on an hourly basis. Blackwell said it was not clear whether or not service would be returned if the proposal was accepted.

Blackwell also noted student response had been mostly negative.

Noseworthy said he thought the negative response was due to the negative manner in which the proposal was brought to the students. He said the matter should have been investigated further, including working out a partnership with college administration, before being put to students.

Gavin FitzPatrick, DSA executive, said, "You are asking us to work in partnership for a nebulous thing." He added, it's difficult to take an offer to the students when Kitchener Transit doesn't even know what it has to offer.

Noseworthy made the motion to have negotiations discontinued, while leaving open the possibility of future dealings with Kitchener Transit.

He also expressed disappointment in college administration for lack of response and for missing a marketing opportunity.

Administration outlines cut-back strategies to board

By Paul Tuns

Conestoga College administration officials described their strategy and the issues involved in dealing with provincial cut-backs to the board of governors Jan. 22.

Kevin Mullan, vice-president of finance and administrative operations, presented a financial perspective. He outlined the five-step strategy on how Conestoga will respond to operating in the current financial climate.

Conestoga must, he said, anticipate and respond to the current and future needs of the students, offer the education necessary to prepare for careers and employment, maintain a comprehensive range of programming to respond to community demand, maintain or improve the quality of its offerings, and prove responsible and cost efficient use of human, fiscal and physical resources.

Mullan said the strategic plan will allow Conestoga to deliver quality, relevant education in a cost-effective manner.

Mullan and college president John Tibbits, said many post-secondary institutions are over-reacting and cutting their budgets without much thought about the quality of education they might be providing a few years down the road.

"Too many colleges are looking at the dollar value and not at what kind of college they want to be in three years," Mullan said.

Tibbits singled out Sheridan College for particular criticism. He said its plan to scrap the nursing program has opened them to legal actions. He said Conestoga will try to scale back certain programs in order to save them. "We'll get smaller in the short term," Tibbits said, "to maintain a top quality and comprehensive education down the road." He

pointed to Conestoga's nursing as a program that will become much smaller to make the necessary cut-backs.

A number of issues are being examined including the number and use of locations of operations, the content of programs, the use of differentiated staff in delivery, reviewing administrative and resource requirements, and looking for revenue opportunities.

In reviewing administrative requirements, Tibbits said he would like to see less intervention by the provincial government so the college could have more leeway in dealing with some issues.

Mullan said the number of services and levels of services provided will have to change. He said the administration is consulting with DSA to look at what services can be reduced or eliminated. He said everything from counselling to athletics is being looked

at.

Mullan also said the college had to look at alternative methodologies in delivering the programs which will probably translate into fewer teacher hours in the classroom. But in delivering the curriculum in a different fashion, the college is committed to providing "a top notch, useful and comprehensive education."

Tibbits said Conestoga might offer one-year certificates in some programs so students can graduate quicker.

Lynda Davenport, chair of the board, told the board to support the administration in its current efforts and told them "this is not a slash-and-burn exercise."

Tibbits said the college's strategy will keep Conestoga ahead of the game. "I'm confident we'll come out of this period strong and on top."

CAMPUS NEWS

News editor: Jeannette Cantin 748-5366

News Briefs

David Suzuki coming up

- Dr. David Suzuki, author and host of CBC's *The Nature of Things* will give a presentation titled *Toward the Next Millennium: The Real Challenge* at Bingemans on Feb. 6. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$12.50 for students and are available at the DSA office, as well as at the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce, Bingemans, Words Worth Books or a university bookstore.

DSA election

- Nomination forms for the DSA election must be completed by noon, Feb. 8. Positions available are: president, vice-president of operations and vice-president of student affairs. Forms and information packages are available at the DSA office.

Chief returning officer chosen

- Pedro Sousa, a first-year general business student, has been chosen as this year's chief returning officer for the DSA elections.

Alumni kisses

- Valentine's Day is close, so the Alumni Association is getting warmed up with a day called Sealed With Alumni Kisses (SWAK). Red carnations and Hershey kisses will be sold Feb. 14.
- The DSA office has tickets for the Valentine's bash at Whiskey Jack's nightclub in Kitchener on Feb. 13. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door.

College to spend money on Sanctuary furniture

By Jeannette Cantin

The DSA board of directors accepted a \$12,700 proposal to provide new furniture for the Sanctuary at its Jan. 23 meeting.

The proposal, presented by Gavin FitzPatrick on behalf of the lounge committee, was referred to as "reduced and refined."

Originally the committee was to make plans for the room to be painted as well, but decided to focus instead on providing furniture and making the room more useful to students.

Two couches (\$640 each), six soft chairs (\$375 each) and six love seats (\$510 each) matching the current lounge furnishings will be purchased.

As well, 12 coffee-tables (\$260 each) and six end-tables (\$220 each) will be made by a Conestoga student.

Despite an effort to remain consistent, FitzPatrick said the committee decided not to purchase the type of coffee- and end-tables currently in the Sanctuary.

He explained that the old tables were easily damaged — he estimated

only a third remain from the original purchase — yet cost almost twice as much.

This time, the tables will be six-sided plywood structures, covered in formica. "Basically they can't get damaged," FitzPatrick said. If a side does get ruined, the table can be flipped over.

The wooden and fabric chairs in the lounge were also expensive, but haven't held up well. FitzPatrick said the committee decided to get less expensive stacking chairs that can be replaced if necessary. Twelve stacking chairs will be purchased at \$23 each, as will three worktables at \$183 each for the quiet lounge.

Four industrial-sized garbage cans will also be purchased, totaling \$848.

FitzPatrick said he is hoping this will alleviate the "huge trash problem" in the lounge.

He acknowledged the garbage cans were expensive, but added "you can run into them with a forklift and they don't break."

Money to purchase the furniture will come from the capital development fund.

Changing how students learn

By Perry Hagerman

Fewer lectures and more self-guided learning is part of Conestoga's plan to reduce costs by using less faculty, says John Tibbits.

The college president recently indicated that management is looking at five or six courses which they hope can be adapted to presentation on audio cassette, printed material and possibly videos.

This would allow students taking the course to have more flexibility in how they learn and how fast they learn. "That would enable them to study when they could and in the format they could," he said.

The strategy is part of the college's reaction to the recent budget cuts by the provincial government. Formal lecture time for a course might be cut by a third, Tibbits said.

A third less lecture hours means a third less faculty necessary for teaching the course. "There is some

resistance from the teachers that have been here a long time, although many are seeing that there is some benefit."

Other courses might have a radical reduction in the number of lectures depending on the type of material being taught. "You might meet only once every two weeks." If a student did require assistance with the material, a tutor would be available at set hours during the week, Tibbits said.

One course he gave as a possible example for the new style of delivery was anatomy. Unlike a course such as introductory philosophy which would require a lot of dialogue between teacher and student, he said learning anatomy is straight forward. "The femur is the femur and the humerus is the humerus. What students need are good learning packages." The college might hire biology students from the University of Waterloo to be tutors, he said.

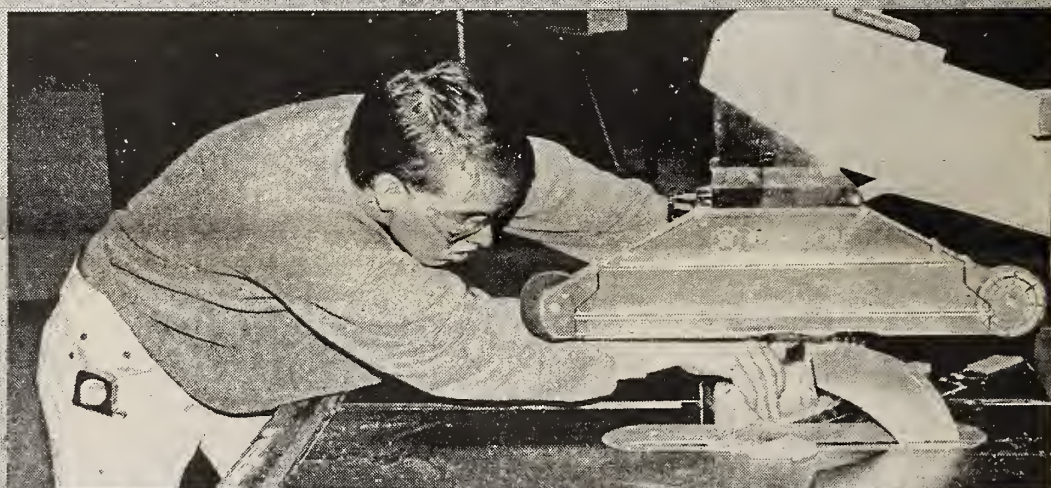
Ultimately, the college would like to develop CD Roms for delivering some of the material, but the cost is currently too high, Tibbits said.

The cost of producing audio cassettes and printed material, however, would be quickly covered by the savings gained by the reduction in the number of faculty teaching the course.

Another example Tibbits gave was a course called *Student Success*. It has 48 hours of lectures and 20 or 21 sections. By reducing the number of lecture hours to 32 and providing other learning materials, the college could reduce its faculty by almost two. "That is a significant savings," Tibbits said. The supplementary material would be good for a few years and the savings would really add up over time.

The first courses to be adapted by the college will be ones which are taught to a lot of students so that there will be an immediate pay-back, Tibbits added.

Woodworking



Conestoga woodworking student Martin Otten pays close attention as he uses a table saw at Conestoga's woodworking centre.

(Photo by Pete Smith)

Business students unhappy with spring break decision

By Heather Milburn Graham

General business students at Conestoga's Waterloo campus say lack of planning and poor communication are the cause of a glitch that has left students without their spring break in March.

Some of these students, who asked not to be named, said during an interview on Friday, Jan. 26, they are unhappy with the organization of their program.

"We found out two days ago that we don't have spring break in March," said one student.

The students said they are upset because they were informed on Wednesday, Jan. 24, that they will have their spring break in April.

Many of them made plans for the March spring break and cannot be refunded the money.

"I did a lot of leg work to find out when spring break was. It was indicated on my schedule for March, and the college regis-

trar's office confirmed it would most likely be in March as well," said one student.

Students in this program don't receive the same spring break because they are enrolled in an extra section of the general business program.

It's designed to allow students to complete a year of study within three consecutive semesters, beginning in January and ending in August.

"These students will start their second year back on stream with the rest of the business students," said Edith Torbay, chair of the school of business.

According to Torbay, the mistake was made because a standard template was used to schedule classes.

Therefore, spring break was indicated in March, the time when students enrolled as of September 1995, will take their break.

"These things happen," said Torbay. "Because they are over

at Waterloo campus I didn't see the time table." The students said they received a rough draft of their schedule in late December 1995, for classes that would begin on Jan. 2., and even it had their spring break designated as March.

Students said they are not upset that a mistake was made, they say they are upset that it took so long to straighten out the problem, and that no one is accepting responsibility for the error.

Torbay said no special treatment will be given to students who miss classes during spring break. "I can't tell them what to do. We need a set time to deliver the content of a course; students who miss work will have to live with the consequences."

The students said they would like to know what measures will be taken to ensure that these mistakes won't happen again. They also said they would like to see these measures put in writing.

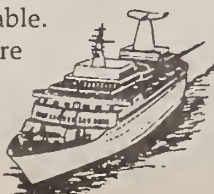
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CAMPUS NEWS

Students still seeking association president

By Amy Wroblewski

The race for president is still going strong.

The Conestoga Business Students Association (CBSA) held their yearly elections on Friday, Jan. 26. A tie was declared for the position of president after candidates presented their speeches.

Alex Kress and Stefan Babic, who are both running for CBSA presi-

dent, were to deliver new speeches at the meeting on Feb. 1, when class representatives were to revote.

Other winners in the election were: Deb Kunsch, who was elected communications co-ordinator; Susan Matjesic, who was elected promotions co-ordinator; and Janine Maloney, who was elected treasurer.

The election was held by secret ballots which were cast by class

representatives.

The positions will officially take effect April 11. Until then, those elected will be working with those in power to learn the ropes.

In a previous meeting held Thursday, Jan 18, Susan Matjesic was acclaimed promotions co-ordinator while Jeff Gobo was acclaimed vice-president.

Gobo said his new position is an adventure. "I'm looking forward to

being VP," he said. "I want to expand the role of the CBSA and get involved."

Gobo also said he would like to do something for business students. "We're the elite of Conestoga; we have our own wing. Without us, none of this would be here."

Gobo added that he feels the DSA has clouded the role of the CBSA, something he intends to change.

In other business, CBSA clothing

is now available. The prices are \$12 for the baseball cap, \$26 for the golfshirt and \$42 for the sweatshirt.

Orders may be placed through class representatives at which time a deposit will be due.

In other news, the CBSA will be selecting one of four charities to donate \$250.

The decision will be based on speeches made by the charity representatives.

Campus mugging



Dave Schofield (left), Chad Belkwell and Brian Zajac mug for Deana Schofield, a second-year broadcasting student, for their production of a commercial.

(Photo by Perry Hagerman)

Government may not forgive loans

By J.C White

Students hoping to have a portion of their student loan forgiven when they graduate may be in for a surprise — the loan forgiveness program may be scrapped by Ontario's Conservative government.

Carol Walsh, financial-aid officer at Conestoga's Doon campus, said even if they don't scrap the program, the levels will definitely change.

The program was developed to help students reduce their debt loads, and is calculated using a specified loan forgiveness level. This level represents the maximum amount the student is required to repay.

For example, as it stands now, the loan forgiveness level for three terms of study is \$9,000. Money borrowed exceeding \$9,000 is for-

given by the province. If less than \$9,000 was borrowed the student is not eligible for loan forgiveness. The bank is notified of the amount forgiven when the student comes in to consolidate the loan (within six months of graduation).

Walsh said there are so many changes happening within the Ontario Student Loan Program, she is not sure when the government will raise the levels, or if they will terminate the program altogether.

She said there is a \$35 million projected shortfall for the 1995-96 academic year, and a \$75 million projected shortfall for the 1996-97 academic year, so something has to change.

Walsh said another change in the program may be an income-contingent loan repayment plan. This would mean that when a student starts to repay a loan the monthly

payments would be calculated according to the student's income at the time, and would change as income levels change.

Another decision which will affect some students after graduation is a change in the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. The Department of Industry updated the act so no student can declare bankruptcy within the first two years of leaving school. Walsh said the rationale is that in addition to the six month interest-free status after leaving school, there is an additional 18-month interest relief option available to those who meet the requirements.

According to a Globe and Mail article (July), in 1993-94 almost 8,000 Canadians were declared exempt from federal student loans because of bankruptcy. This cost the government \$61 million.

Deficits plague other Ontario colleges

By Judith Hemming

Of the six Ontario community colleges that have made their latest financial information available, Conestoga is the only one to report a surplus.

The information was part of a package put together by Conestoga College's support staff union president Ann Wallace.

Conestoga has reported a surplus of \$3-4 million, which has allowed it to offer buy-out packages to administration, academic and support staff.

According to the report, George Brown in Toronto has a \$16-million deficit, Canadore in North Bay reported a deficit of \$14-17 million,

Mohawk in Hamilton estimated a deficit of \$13 million by 1997. Fanshawe in London was listed with a deficit of \$9 million and Confederation in Thunder Bay was listed at a deficit of \$3.5 million.

The other 19 Ontario colleges have yet to publicize financial reports.

In other union business, Ontario's support staff union will not give the Council of Regents a notice to bargain. Union delegates attended a pre-bargaining conference in Toronto mid-January, where support staff presidents reported each individual college's vote.

Out of the 25 Ontario colleges, Fanshawe and Seneca were the only schools who delivered a yes

vote. Conestoga reported that 119 out of 248 staff members responded to the survey. Of those who responded, 57 per cent voted no.

The colleges who responded with a no vote expressed a desire to leave the contract for one year and give notice to bargain at this time next year, the report said.

The package to members also included a copy of the Council of Presidents' document *Strategies for Addressing Grant Reduction*.

The council document suggested moving towards a decentralized bargaining process. Wallace said the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), does not support local bargaining.

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News editor Jeannette Cantin
Student life editor Samantha Craggs
Issues and activities editor Kean Doherty
Photo editor Perry Hagerman
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SPOKE is published and produced weekly by journalism students of Conestoga College. SPOKE is mainly funded from September to May by the Doon Student Association (DSA). The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Conestoga College or the DSA.

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Bomb threat caller hardly a 'good kid'

Well, the "good kid" who phoned in the bomb threat really pulled the wool over the eyes of regional police and college administration.

If this person is supposed to be a "good kid" in the socially conscious '90s, the bad kids must be awfully bad.

As for his punishment, he got off rather lightly. If he pulled this stunt in a country that isn't as big on protecting criminals as Canada is, he would find himself in waters teeming with sharks, not tadpoles.

A suspension until September of this year for this "good kid" is a joke. And how can college president John Tibbits even suggest that this kid can work off the financial strain the bomb threat put on the college?

This "good kid" probably gets OSAP like most everyone else, and when he does return, there wouldn't be enough hours in the day for him to even begin to repay the college for his actions.

Tibbits said the punishment showed a "quality of mercy" to the perpetrator, in effect stating he deserved mercy.

The act, however, is far worse than setting off a fire alarm and hardly deserves mercy, only punishment with extreme prejudice.

Did this "good kid" not see the carnage in Oklahoma City in the news not that long ago? Did he even think for a minute the panic he could have set off if the student body had known why they were being evacuated?

Probably not.

In an act of extreme cowardice, this kid phoned in a bomb threat because he was afraid to give a class presentation.

Maybe when he returns to school and is faced with a gruelling exam he'll put a real bomb in the school and really shake things up.

Const. Tom Granston of the Waterloo regional police interviewed him and gave him a passing grade for honesty and remorse, dubbing him a "good kid."

Granston must handle some pretty hard criminals out there to call this kid good. The kids who stole the Christmas lights and spray painted the clock tower in Victoria Park must be "outstanding" in the eyes of Granston.

Petty theft and vandalism are one thing, acts of terrorism are another.

Yes, it was an act of terrorism, the purpose of which was to scare the school administration into evacuating its buildings to meet some personal end.

It was not as harsh as kidnapping a foreign diplomat to negotiate a hostage transfer, but it had the same ring to it. The "good kid" held an entire school and its day-to-day operations hostage, so that in turn he would not have to give his presentation.

How selfish.

The punishment goes nowhere near where it should have. Outright expulsion and reparation would have been a start. Criminal charges and a record would also be just.

At worst he should have to defend himself in the courts against a possible penalty of eight years for uttering death threats, or 10 years for public mischief.

If for no other reason, it would show him how monstrous his act really was, conviction or no conviction.

This is not a "good kid." This is a "junior terrorist."



Just a thought



By Barbara Walden

Confessions of a rink rat

It's time to confess.

I've been deceiving my friends and family for quite some time now and I just can't live with it any longer.

It all started innocently enough about five years ago when my three daughters started playing ringette. Hanging out in arenas throughout Waterloo Region and beyond became a way of life for us from late September to the end of March. Early mornings, during the supper hour, nights, weekends — whenever the coach called, we were there.

All the other parents seemed to gripe and complain about the hours upon hours they spent every week shivering in cold, damp arenas while their budding super star chased a puck or a ring around on the ice.

I began to feel I was betraying some unknown code of parent conduct if I didn't groan along with the group. So I did.

And the results were absolute magic. Sympathy was showering upon me from friends and relatives alike every time the dreaded arena was mentioned.

But now the truth is coming out and it's a relief.

The time spent shuttling children from one arena to another on a Saturday is not the chore it's made out to be.

It becomes a logistical triumph when I manage to get my oldest daughter to an arena in St.

Jacobs on time for her game which begins only an hour after her twin sisters have finished a game in the south of Kitchener.

Sitting in the stands, cheering my girls on, while warming my hands on a cup of hot chocolate or coffee (although most arena coffee isn't much different from the liquid I wash my dishes in) and, yes, moaning about my cold feet along with the best of them, is really not as bad as I have pretended it is.

Although I was careful not to let on, I was secretly excited when my oldest daughter tied out for a select team last fall and made it.

Three or four ice times a week plus tournaments, along with the couple of games her sisters play, add up to an awful lot of hours spent in the dreaded arena. In fact, it's almost become my life.

Friends couldn't help the pitiful glances they bestowed upon me whenever I mentioned the extra travelling time this winter. It was glorious.

And now this confession is going to bring it all to an end. Everyone is going to know what a rink rat I've been these past five years, deceiving them as I have.

I hope you other parents will understand and perhaps, one day, you too can admit the truth.

Hanging out in the arena, watching your children participate in a sport is not as painful as you would like everyone to believe.

Reader feels unsafe using recreation centre facilities

I would like to reply to an article in the Jan. 22 issue of Spoke entitled *Survey shows students consider exercise is a good way to beat stress*.

I want to address the reason why I do not use the fitness centre located in the recreation centre.

I used the centre in the fall a couple of times a week. I got very discouraged and stopped going because I felt unsafe in both the locker room and the fitness room.

There are no coded doors, or limited access to the female locker room. The fitness room

itself is secluded, with only one window out to the corridor.

Also, when I am in this room I feel uncomfortable being the only female among the men who are using the weightlifting equipment.

During the winter, I need somewhere to go to do my hour walk. However, because of the dark corridors, lack of security to patrol the centre and the free access to the women's locker room, I no longer feel comfortable exercising in the recreation centre.

Marion Willms
Second-semester nursing

TAKING SIDES

Should students and faculty have received advanced notice of John Snobelen's visit?

If you can't take the heat . . .

By Jeannette Cantin



Accessible government seems to be going the way of the dodo bird.

The Harris government seems hell-bent on ensuring the term becomes an oxymoron (remember when the words common sense used to mean something?). The attempt to quietly pass the now infamous omnibus bill comes to mind, as do the newly locked doors of Queen's Park.

Education and Training Minister John Snobelen's low-profile, look-how-well-behaved-we-are visit Jan. 16, was a perfect example of the move towards inaccessible government. With talk of increased tuition hikes, buy-out packages and a \$400-million loss to funding for post-secondary education, the visit should have been the human equivalent to the fat jumping into the fire.

Instead, no fuss, no muss. Unfortunately, no chance to express an opinion or ask questions either. Granted, it was important for president John Tibbits to show off Conestoga's impressive training and development programs. Business is business. And, it is nothing short of mortifying to see a well-organized demonstration reduced by mob mentality into barely more than a rowdy street party.

However, the forum should remain open. People need to be able to access the government at whatever level is available to them, otherwise they become frustrated. If nothing else, students and faculty who are anxious about their respective futures should have been allowed to let off steam.

And then there's the old adage, if you can't take the heat, stay out of the kitchen — or in this case, politics. Snobelen gets to make the tough decisions; why shouldn't he have to answer the tough questions?

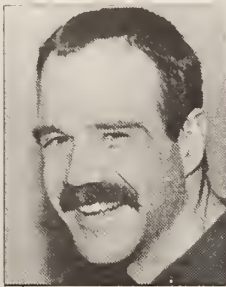
University of Waterloo president James Downey at least made a "cry from the heart" regarding the survival of post-secondary education during a luncheon hosted by Kitchener's Chamber of Commerce. Conestoga students were denied this opportunity, and worse, our president had nothing but kind things to say, at least publicly.

Tibbits told the Record he was pleased with how supportive the government is of the business community, and noted Conestoga is a part of the "economic engine" of the province. It seems to have slipped his mind that this same government has not been quite as supportive of education, and that Conestoga is supposed to be a part of the learning engine as well.

Snobelen did take time during his visits to chat with high school students. One student remarked on Snobelen's "willingness to listen." Sure — as long as you aren't old enough to vote. Of course, this may be a rather cynical view. Perhaps the late notice of Snobelen's visit to staff, faculty and media was unavoidable. Perhaps it wasn't anyone's intention to avoid conflict or interruption to his tour.

Or perhaps the mildly educated Snobelen thought PR stood for "performance review," and decided to pass.

campus comments

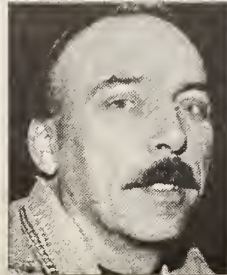


Yes. "It should have been publicized. It's a form of censorship."

Norm Hoag
General arts and sciences, tech option

No. "He was here to look at tech programs. Protests would have given the college a bad name."

Tim Bauer
General arts and science, tech option



Yes. "It's the first I've heard about it. It wouldn't have hurt to publish that he was coming."

Paul Leidy
Second-year accounting

No. "It's good to have the opportunity to say how important we are as a college and show us in a positive light."

Carol Jackson
Nursing instructor

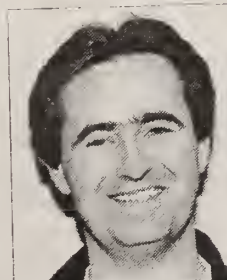


"Who? Yeah, I think so. What he's doing is affecting us."

Joel Brown
First-year graphics

Yes. "People should definitely have a chance to voice opinions."

Rob Byod
Third-year mechanical engineering



Who said he'd listen anyway?



By Robert Klager

Students and teachers may be upset that Minister of Education and Training John Snobelen was smuggled through the college a couple of weeks ago, but the same people would be naive to believe that any chance to speak with him would have proven constructive. He wasn't here to field complaints, suggestions or input. He was here to see how the college sits on the cutting edge of technology and training. He was President John Tibbits' guest and simply put, we weren't invited — we didn't have a purpose there that day.

Though under the veil of concern for his ministry's adherents, Snobelen was, nevertheless, well informed about Conestoga's commitment to the community through training and development. It's a commitment that folds in rather nicely with the Ontario Conservatives' ideology of training and building the workforce in order to begin making money.

Any cursory glance at Snobelen's vision for education in Ontario shows a distinct leaning towards alternative futures as opposed to traditional post-secondary education. For years people have been complaining, and rightfully so, that certain people need to get off their butts, gain initiative, retrain and get to work. Conestoga goes a long way in accommodating such measures for society, but in light of growing "fiscal responsibilities" in Ontario, it still needs to sell itself to the "great provider".

Unfortunately, such sales pitches don't lend themselves well to yelling protesters, pickets and general discontent. Sure it's unfair. Education-grant cuts and tuition hikes are going to kill the option of learning or teaching at colleges and universities for a lot of people. Who would want to take such a situation lying down? In this case, many would argue they didn't even have the right to decide whether or not to lie down. Such concerns are very real.

But in the same regard, don't you think Tibbits also has some reservations about Snobelen's actions — even though they may have been shrouded in smiles and back-slaps? Given the benefit of the doubt, don't you think the president wants a booming and productive staff and student body? Snobelen thinks he's running a business, so Tibbits had no choice but to "do business".

Or maybe he's beaten all of us to the realization that voices of dissent are falling on deaf ears at Queen's Park these days.

Regardless, the way this government has slashed funding, Conestoga College couldn't afford to leave Snobelen with an impression that was anything less than positive. Though unpopular, the college acted with wise judgment by not informing everyone of Snobelen's visit. What could have resulted would have merely created animosity the college doesn't need.

Besides, who among us really had anything positive to say to Snobelen? Who among us really believes he'd have listened?

Exactly. That's why we weren't there.

YES

Do you have any topical questions you want straight-forward answers to? Send them to the editor or staff in Room 4B15, or call SPOKE at 748-5366.

NO

CONESTOGA LIFE

Lifestyles editor: Samantha Craggs 748-5366

Trashy habits

Students getting too comfortable in lounge

By Heather Milburn Graham

Problems are really piling up in the Doon campus Sanctuary these days as students who frequent the lounge seem to prefer leaving their litter strewn on its floor and tables, instead of throwing it into garbage cans.

Basically, students are trashing the lounge and it stinks.

In an effort to alleviate the problem, the DSA was given approval at the DSA Board of Director's (BOD) meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 23., to purchase four "Rubbermaid

gluttons" for the Sanctuary.

Pat Moules, a BOD representative, said he doesn't think it's so much a problem of a lack of garbage cans, as it is a problem getting people to put their trash in.

Gavin FitzPatrick, DSA executive, said during an interview that the current garbage cans are inconvenient to students.

He said the new garbage cans, priced at \$212 each, are much larger than the existing ones, have a large opening to deposit trash and have a flat top for lunch trays. "Once we've added the proper

equipment, we've done everything we can to resolve the problem," said FitzPatrick. "If the problem persists, we're in a position to take further action."

Last year, the student lounge was permanently closed because of an ongoing garbage problem.

FitzPatrick said the DSA doesn't want to shut down the lounge, but said it may be forced to if students don't clean up their act.

Tracey McKillop, DSA executive, said she thinks the problem is due to lazy students.

She said students are not picking

up their garbage, and consequently the lounge stinks.

FitzPatrick said garbage in the lounge should be cleaned up on a voluntary basis.

However, he said in most cases the house-keeping staff has had the unfortunate task of cleaning up the mess.

So far, he said he has not received any complaints from them.

Beth Patterson, DSA executive, said during the meeting she doesn't believe the problem will ever be solved, but said at least the new garbage cans will aid in re-

ducing it.

April-Dawn Blackwell, DSA executive, said she would have liked to have seen another two garbage cans added to the lounge.

BOD representatives said the purchase of more garbage cans would be decided upon how well the first four work.

FitzPatrick said the new cans will probably be located close to the lounge's exits.

In the meantime, he said there are garbage cans and recycling bins in the lounge for students to use.

Take a chance



Pedro Sousa, a first-year general business student, fills out a contest ballot at the DSA Winter Warm-up table, Jan. 29.

(Photo by Kean Doherty)

New help for students

Equipment helps in emergencies

By T. L. Huffman

Doon campus security is implementing new safety features to provide Doon students with a safer environment, according to Barry Milner of physical resources.

Among the new safety features are two-way radios for campus security officers, the installation of more safety mirrors and Bell pay phones in the business wing.

The security officers are now equipped with two-way radios interconnected to the main telephone system in the security office.

When a security officer is not in the office, the officer carries a two-way radio so emergency calls can be answered immediately.

If a student has an emergency he or she can call the security office. The extension for security is 357.

If at that time the student gets a recording, he or she can either leave a message, or call back at a later time unless the call is an extreme

emergency.

In the case of an immediate emergency, the recording instructs the caller to dial extension 611.

The call will be forwarded immediately to a security officer via the two-way radio system, and the student is then connected to a security officer.

Milner stresses that the new system is strictly for emergency calls.

If the matter does not require an immediate response, the caller should leave a message.

The message will be picked up by a security officer and dealt with promptly.

The women's safety grant, administered by Kim Radigan, supervisor of Health and Safety, was a major contributor to the new two-way radio system.

The grant, along with funding from the security budget made this safety project possible.

The two-way radio system has been installed for about two weeks

without any flaws, according to Milner.

Milner said, "The service will go a long way to assist people to get help in emergency situations."

It is important to educate people, Milner said, so when an emergency needs to be dealt with, it will be dealt with promptly and efficiently.

Another improvement to security on campus is the installation of more security mirrors throughout the main building.

The installation of more security mirrors is scheduled for parts of D-wing (the business wing) and the renovated areas of wings A, B and C.

Also on the agenda is the installation of Bell pay phones in the business wing which will help improve campus security.

Milner said the improvements to security are to improve campus safety for staff and students and to make staff and students feel more comfortable at the college.

Exploring UFOs at Conestoga

By Amanda Steffler

Myths behind the unidentified flying object phenomenon and the search for extraterrestrial life, were only some of the many topics discussed during a one-day workshop at the college.

The class was held in the student/client services building Jan. 27, and featured Michael Best, an investigator with the Centre for UFO Studies in Michigan. Close to 20 people attended.

Best said many people make the mistake of saying they saw a UFO. "You didn't see a UFO. You want to report a UFO sighting."

According to Best, there is a difference between seeing a UFO and

a sighting. He said people have to remember there has to be credibility with the report.

"A photograph isn't exciting anymore," said Best. "They are too easy to manipulate."

Best said, when a report is made, the centre actually investigates the person who made the report, not the UFO. The UFO is long gone.

He said the investigator must get to know the person inside and out in order to know whether to take them seriously or not.

To make a report of a UFO sighting credible, Best said to include witnesses. He said a report that includes one person is less credible than a report with at least two people witnessing a UFO sight-

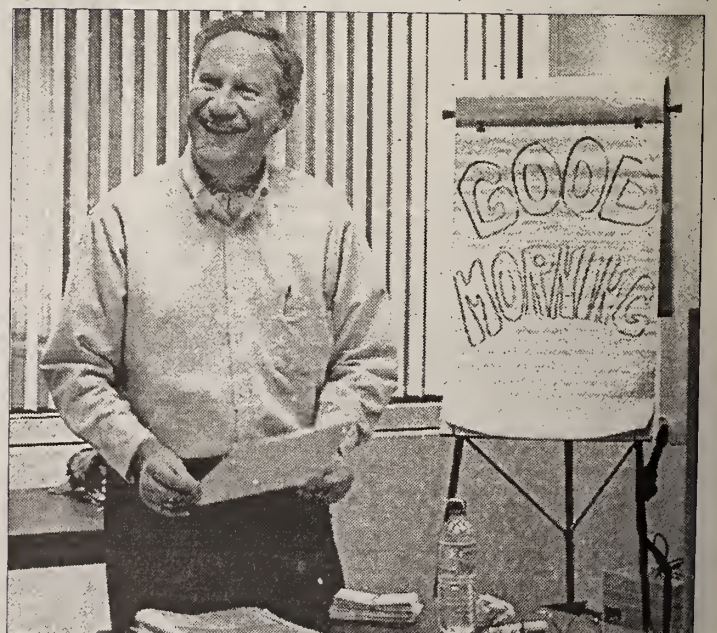
ing.

What Best finds discouraging is that 95 out of 100 investigations are a hoax or some sort of misconception. Best also said 95 per cent of UFO sightings occur at night.

Best covered the future of the UFO phenomenon and astronomy. Astronomy gives a person some sense of how life originated on earth and what the possibilities are that other life forms exist on other planets.

An astronomy enthusiast for the past 50 years, Best was born in Windsor, Ont., but currently lives in Plymouth, Mich.

Best said he believes in keeping an open mind. "I like to ask questions. Nothing is written in stone."



Michael Best taught students about UFOs at a continuing education class on Jan. 27.

(Photo by Diane Santos)

CONESTOGA LIFE

Senior nurse retiring After 24 years, Marilyn Fischer says her goodbyes to Conestoga

By Robert Klager

At a time when increasing cutbacks are plaguing the majority of post-secondary institutions across the province, there seem to be few lights at the end of the tunnel. Marilyn Fischer has had the opportunity to see one, and she's approaching it with a quiet confidence befitting a woman of focus and commitment.

One of Conestoga's first staff members to opt for a proposed buy-out offer, Fischer, the senior nurse of health services, will leave the college on June 30, for good. But her journey is only beginning. Complementing her life-long dedication to helping others, Fischer's plans for retirement are ambitious — her attitude, admirable.

It was May of 1972 when Fischer, a graduate of the K-W Hospital School of Nursing, first began working for Conestoga's Waterloo Campus. Thirteen years later, in January of 1986, she was called to Doon to head up health services for all campuses. It's a position she's greatly enjoyed, but one she said

she's ready to leave.

"I think I'm ready to do this," said Fischer in an interview. "My husband retired two years ago and once I was given the opportunity, I felt now was the time."

Fischer heard about the buy-out package just before Christmas. The holidays gave her an opportunity to weigh her options before applying early in January.

She had attended a five-week course entitled *Successful Financial Strategies for Retirement* that was offered to Conestoga employees in the fall. A beneficial coincidence, the course has provided Fischer with the foresight to consider such a buy-out option.

She said the two questions she needed to answer were, "could I retire now?" and "could I live on what I would get?"

The answer was yes to both, and after the approval of her package in mid-January, Fischer started looking to the future.

She is planning to pursue work with the Hospice Program as a volunteer care-giver to palliative patients at home. A deep love for

travel is drawing her towards future plans as a part-time travel counselor/tour escort. And immediate plans are to spend the summer at her lake-side trailer near Lucknow, while she awaits the arrival of a first grandchild in the fall.

Fischer is grateful for the chance to work with adults and especially, adolescents over the years.

"It's given me the opportunity to promote health and accident prevention to that age group," she said — an age group Fischer has seen substantial changes in.

"I think today people want to know more about themselves," she said. "The way health care is going today, people need to be able to make their own decisions with the knowledge nurses and physicians give them."

As the time draws nearer, Fischer is beginning to realize the implications of leaving Conestoga.

"Most of all, I'm going to miss the contact with students and staff," she said.

After nearly a quarter of a century at the college, students and staff may just miss her too.



Marilyn Fischer, senior nurse for health services at Conestoga College, will be saying goodbye in June. She is one of the first to accept a buy-out package resulting from the college's cutbacks.

(Photo by Robert Klager)

Dean of trades and apprenticeships leaving Conestoga's Guelph campus

By Amy Wroblewski

The dean of trades and apprenticeship at Conestoga College's Guelph campus will be sorely missed when he retires say his colleagues.

Ken Snyder, who has worked for the college for almost 26 years, was thrown a retirement party by friends and co-workers in the Guelph campus cafeteria Friday, Jan. 26. About 125 people from Conestoga, the Ministry of Education and other colleges came out to honor Snyder.

The party included a dinner buffet followed by speeches from friends and co-workers. In an interview during the party, Snyder said he felt

it was time to retire and this was his earliest opportunity.

"I want to take it easy and do some personal things," he said. "I'm looking forward to the future."

He said he would like to spend some time with his wife and may take a couple of university courses.

Andy Clow, chair of communications and part-time learning at Guelph, was master of ceremonies for the evening and said Snyder is lucky to be able to retire. Clow, who has worked with Snyder for over 20 years, said Snyder will be missed.

"He's always cheerful in good times, as well as arguments," he said. Snyder, who taught at the college for 10 of his 26 years, said he

has mixed emotions about retirement.

"I'm apprehensive," he said. "I've enjoyed working with these people. It's been very rewarding." Snyder added that he has a lot of long-term memories from working at what he considers to be "one of the better colleges in the system."

Gerhardt Geddis, retired chair of technology at Fanshawe College, who has worked with Snyder over the years, said Snyder has helped improve learning.

"He's a leader among administration," Geddis said. "He has a high commitment to the students; he puts them first."

As a parting word, Snyder said, "I'm going fishing."

Valentine's Day wishes from Alumni Association

By Tara Brown

Feb. 14 is fast approaching and while many of us have had our romantic thermometers cooled by recent winter storms, the Alumni Association of Conestoga College is just getting warmed up with SWAK Day for 1996.

Standing for Sealed With Alumni Kisses, SWAK Day will give students, faculty and staff the opportunity to get red carnations and Hershey kisses for their special friends on Valentine's Day.

Mary Wright, the Alumni co-ordinator, anticipates a good response for SWAK Day. "We've sold out for the last two or three years with this," said Wright.

SWAK Day is held not only to

provide flowers and treats, but also to boost the awareness of the Alumni Association.

"Some people don't even know we're here," said Wright. "It (SWAK Day) creates some exposure for us and people realize we have an alumni association. Students realize their relationship with us is lifelong and doesn't end when they leave the school."

Last year's event was very successful and a good time, said Wright. Student volunteers helped to man the SWAK tables and Cliff the Condor made an appearance.

"It's a lot of fun that day," she said. "Some people give the flowers more in friendship or as a kind gesture for somebody."

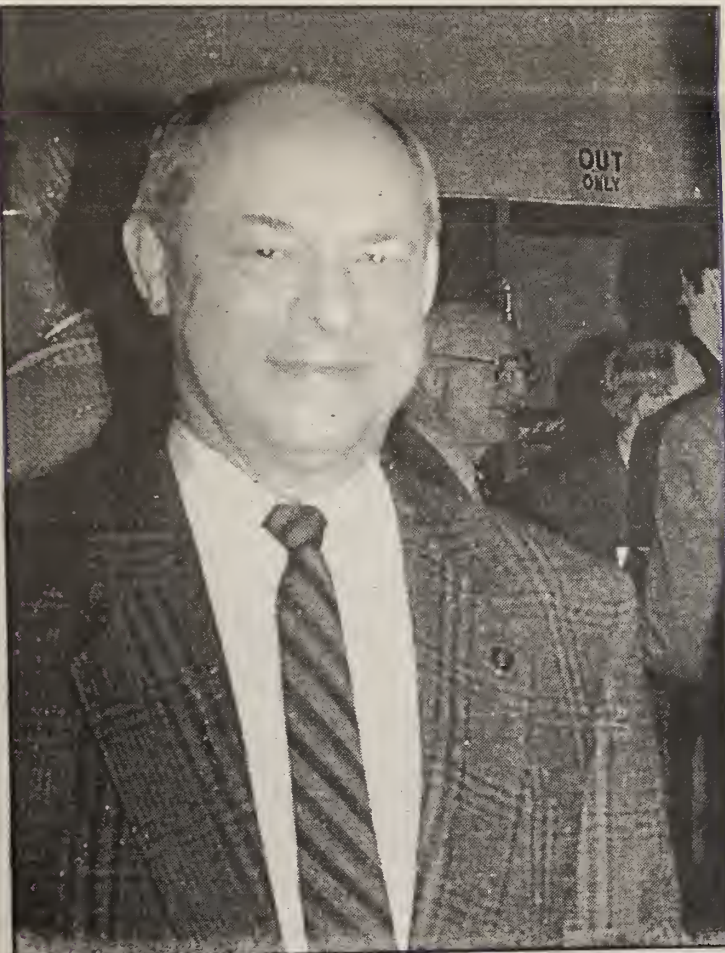
Prices have been set at \$2 for an

individual flower, \$5 for three or six for \$10. The proceeds from the sales will go to the Alumni Association although it has yet to be decided how the money will be spent.

"It could be a combination of something for the students and the association," Wright said, adding that while several ideas have been discussed and are currently being considered, nothing has been decided.

Tables will be set up outside Door 3 and Door 4 at the main building of the Doon campus for purchases.

Flowers may also be available in the Student/Client Services building, although that has yet to be confirmed.



Ken Snyder, dean of trades and apprenticeships, said he is looking forward to an early retirement. His retirement party was held at the Guelph campus on Friday, Jan. 26.

(Photo by Amy Wroblewski)

Happy Valentine's Day
from
the SPOKE staff!

CONESTOGA LIFE

Skiers descend on Blue Mountain

By Diane Santos

With the constant weather change, skiers and snowboarders didn't know what to anticipate on Jan. 26, when they paid to spend a day at Blue Mountain Ski Resort in Collingwood.

Luckily, the snowfall from the night before and on the morning of the trip gave the students a new plush base of snow. Although there was a 6:30 a.m. call, 72 students packed onto two Ayr Coach buses and prepared for departure at 7 a.m.

The two-hour bus ride was just too short for a nap, as students waited in anticipation to strap on boards and slide into skis. The bus arrived at Blue Mountain at ap-

proximately 9 a.m., and students and family members climbed off the bus with smiling faces as they noticed tiny flakes of snow falling from the sky.

Snowboarders were once again outnumbered by the skiers as they took to the slopes, but fortunately, they had their own slope called the Badlands.

Snowboarders could board down the pipe, jump the hill and do their own version of slalom, while skiers chose from a number of runs.

It was a successful trip for the Doon Student Association, who had originally only planned to take one bus, but opted instead for two because of the demand for \$5 seats.

Even though it wasn't sunny in

the morning, the freshly groomed snow was a wonderland of activity for the students who got the day off from classes. Although there was a slight chill in the air, the skiers and snowboarders were dressed warmly, and were equipped with goggles or sunglasses to block the gleam from the snow.

Those who missed out on the trip should consider it the next time it is offered by the DSA. It's a great stress reliever, a day away from Conestoga and simply put, a lot of fun.

Don't forget, for those people who can't ski, there are lessons and there are slopes for beginners, so next time consider the trip and go have some fun in the snow.



Bryan Dyce, a construction engineering student, enjoys a day of snowboarding at Blue Mountain, Friday, Jan. 26. (Photo by Amanda Steffler)

Student services welcomes new face

By Linda Yovanovich

"There's a first time for everything," as the cliché goes, and student services at the Doon campus now has its first intern.

Lynn Robbins, a master's of social work student at Wilfrid Laurier University, has joined the staff in the student services office where she will be a counsellor for the next six months.

Although other campuses have had university students help their student services offices, Robbins is the first to work at Doon.

In an interview, she said she spent most of January becoming acquainted with the college and its students.

In that month of orientation, she spent time familiarizing herself with other services on campus including the special needs office,

social services and registrar's office to find out the roles of different people on campus and to try to ensure that the work of one service does not overlap with another.

"It's only now that I'm joining committees. I'll start seeing clients, like a regular counsellor, beginning in February."

Robbins will be working with Joan Magazine, the college counsellor in charge of the self-esteem workshops that start in March. She is also part of a committee for Eating Disorder Awareness week in February.

Robbins said she is likely to work on projects which have been put aside recently. She has also had ideas about other workshops, although they are in the planning stages at this time.

Robbins is interested in finding out what students need help with.

"There are shifts in student needs. I'd like to find out from students what their specific needs are."

She said she would like to set up information sessions or some kind of information table to provide students with material on useful topics such as helping students find summer jobs.

As part of her orientation at Conestoga, Robbins sat in on a class called Conflict Resolution. She wanted to get an idea of the tone of classes. "The learning style (of college) is different from university. It's very practical."

Robbins said she also wants to be part of a class where she could be used as support for the instructor. She hopes to attend more classes including Strategies for Student Success. "As silly as it sounds, I kind of miss sitting in on lectures," she said.



Lynn Robbins, a WLU master's of social work student, is Doon student services' first university intern. She is working with student services for the next six months. (Photo by Linda Yovanovich)

Pool Tournament
Tue. Feb. 13

Double Elimination
Sign up at the DSA Office
by Mon. Feb. 12th.

32 players only



AN Evening with
Dr. David Suzuki



Tickets available
at the DSA Office

CONESTOGA LIFE



Jerek Bojanowicz remembers hard times at Conestoga when he studied electronic engineering technology. (Photo by Ewa Jankowiak)

Former Conestoga student finds satisfaction in job

By Ewa Jankowiak

Jerek Bojanowicz, a 32-year-old Waterloo man, should be particularly pleased with his good fortune.

The program logic control (PLC) specialist has got a job three months after he graduated from the electronics engineering technology program at Conestoga College.

"There is no doubt that I owe Conestoga College for having a job that doesn't waste my knowledge," said Bojanowicz. "The school gave me both education and skills."

Bojanowicz works as an electronic technologist in the research and development department of Sutherland-Schultz Technologies Inc. in Kitchener.

The company began as a software development group for Sutherland-Schultz in the '70s and comprises computer professionals and engineers dedicated to the development

of software and hardware solutions.

Sutherland-Schultz Technology Inc. employs many engineers, marketers and technicians. Five of them are Bojanowicz's classmates from Conestoga College.

"There are also a few people from the previous years," Bojanowicz said. "The company grows rapidly and employs many young, educated and ambitious people."

Bojanowicz graduated as a computer-system specialist in 1995. When he began the course there were 120 students in his program.

After two semesters, the students were split into two specializations: computer systems and telecommunication.

"Only nine students finished computer specialist program that year and six of them had a job before school year had ended," said Bojanowicz. "Three others had to wait a few months to find a job, includ-

ing myself."

Bojanowicz said it was a hard time but he doesn't regret it. "There was a lot of stuff I had to do after regular class hours, so I got an overnight pass and I had an access to the school's labs 24 hours a day," said Bojanowicz. "Some of my colleagues stayed all night because the projects had to be done on time."

School time was also tough for Bojanowicz's wife, Hanna, who had to calculate the costs of living and decide how they would finance a new PC computer, software and books.

Between attending classes, doing projects and studying for exams, Bojanowicz also dreamed of owning a motorcycle.

"I bought a Kawasaki ZX6 immediately after I was approved by the company," he said. "Things are going well and I am happy with my life."

Security measures keep crime out Rodeway Suites monitors phone numbers

By Patrick Moore

If you're making a telephone call at the residence prepare to have the number recorded.

All calls made from the residence, including internal calls, have their number recorded by a computer that managers can access, said Paul Holowaty, manager of Rodeway Suites.

Holowaty said calling records can be accessed by way of date, room or phone number and can be stored on computer for up to seven years.

"Normally, the only reason we would look at the tapes would be if the police asked us to," he said.

Holowaty said while there is nothing stopping him from going through the phone lists, he wouldn't.

"Why would I want to?" he asked.

Holowaty said the phone security was tightened several years ago be-

cause of a student accessing restricted numbers. The number was traced and the resident was forced to pay for the calls.

Phone recording is not the only form of security at Rodeway Suites, said Holowaty.

"Every common area in the residence is monitored by camera," he said. "We keep the records for seven days."

He said if anything is stolen the resident can look through the tapes to try and find any information pertaining to the incident.

"We have caught people in the past trying to break into the building," he said. "They were caught on video and we turn that stuff over to the police directly."

In addition, Holowaty said, the front door is always locked and the key every resident receives is extremely difficult to copy. Deadbolts are located on every resident's

door. Guests must sign in or face the charge of trespassing, he said.

"The residents have to take a certain responsibility for their own security," Holowaty said. "We also have a security guard that wanders through the hallways from 11 p.m. until 3 a.m., looking for anything out of the ordinary."

Holowaty also said there is no program for female students walking to and from the college at night.

"There are too many insurance liabilities," he said. "We in no way endorse one or run one. Our insurance premiums would be through the roof."

Holowaty said while the residents are told about the security arrangements before they move in, they are not told about the computerized phone system.

"It doesn't record anything more than what Bell records, so the records are there anyway," he said.



VALENTINE'S BASH

AT

WHISKEY JACK'S

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 13



\$3.00 in advance
\$5.00 at the door
Doors open at 8:00 pm
Tickets available at the DSA office

Find your famous mate for a free beverage!

Homegrown Talent Day



**Wednesday, Feb. 21
at THE ROOST SPORTS BAR**

**Deadline to enter your act
is Feb. 15th...fill out an
entry form at the DSA
Office or The Roost.**

POLAR PACKS

Winter Warm-up t-shirt,
wool socks,
chocolate bar,
WHISTLE, cough
drops, water bottle, hot
chocolate & more!
**On sale Jan. 29 -
Feb. 2nd** at various Winter
Warm-up locations & the DSA Office.
ONLY \$9.99!

Entertainment



United Kingdom vocalist Dave Thompson (a.k.a. Damon Alexander) terrorizes the crowd at Punk Rock Bash '96.

(Photo by Samantha Craggs)

Eating Disorder Week Feb. 4 - 10

**Educational displays
& ongoing video
presentation of "Mirror
Mirror" Monday at
Student Services &
Wednesday in the
Sanctuary.**

Co-ordinated by Student Services &



ARE YOU GRADUATING?

**Jostens
Photography will be
at Doon Campus
Feb. 5th to 16th**

**Ask your class rep. to
schedule your class
TODAY!**

**Book appointments at
the DSA Office.**



United Kingdom creates anarchy

By Samantha Craggs

Cambridge-based punk rock group United Kingdom played its final show at Loose Screw Productions' Punk Rock Bash Friday, Jan. 26, after six years together.

Singer/songwriter Dave Thompson (who goes by his stage name, Damon Alexander), drummer Brad Casarin (a.k.a. Vladimir Kozloz), guitarist Kevin Anger (a.k.a. Nitz Nadz) and bassist Jack Moons (a.k.a. Jack Union) said they are breaking up because they want to try new things.

"The novelty's worn off," Casarin said. "We had our time, but that time is gone."

Thompson said they started out as kids playing the music they grew up listening to, and the new wave of so-called punk bands has made punk music sound jaded.

Casarin said the band is influenced by the Misfits, the Foreskins and Forgotten Rebels, but people think they are copying new bands like Green Day.

"When we were doing it, it was unheard of," Thompson said. "If you wore Doc Martens you were tough. If you wore a British flag on your back you were a punk rocker. Now it's totally pointless."

Thompson said he knew he wanted to be a serious musician after attending a Forgotten Rebels show. After the show he wrote six songs to show Casarin, sub-

sequently forming United Kingdom.

Each member has their own history of "garage bands" before forming six years ago with a different bassist. Casarin recruited Moons three years ago after their first bassist quit and they needed a bassist for a Forgotten Rebels tour.

The band is involved in several side projects to "make some money," Thompson said. Moons is a first-year electronics engineering student at Conestoga and Casarin attends Fanshawe for marketing so they have something to fall back on if music doesn't work out.

Thompson said a couple of deals with record labels fell through because the labels couldn't handle them.

"People wanted us because we were bad," Thompson said. "We'd go up on stage and I'd throw up and smash a mike stand and they couldn't handle it. They like the idea of us until they saw us."

Thompson has a reputation of either vomiting or cutting himself at the end of each show.

Thompson said the band may reform under a different name, but not playing the same style of music.

"We're all artists, and if an artist keeps painting the same picture it's not going to get any recognition," Thompson said.

Although the band has broken up, bootleg material is available via Jack at 895-2272 ext. 111.

Punk rock bash hosts six bands

Loose Screw Productions (LSP) held Punk Rock Bash '96 on Friday, Jan. 26.

The all-ages event at Cambridge Steelworkers' Hall featured the Sinisters, United Kingdom, Ground, Live Sex Show, Fire Dog and the Dead Elvies.

The Dead Elvies played standard punk and did a great version of the Proclaimers' 500 Miles.

Fire Dog was energetic but boring and constantly shouted f--- you! at the audience.

Live Sex Show, one of the best bands at the bash, was a cross between the Misfits and My Life with the Thrill Kill Kult.

Smoking a joint on stage was the only interesting thing Ground did.

When United Kingdom played its final show for an adoring crowd the singer went crazy, moving with such ferocity it made people move to the back as he broke equipment and rolled in broken glass. Their music was tight and their enthusiasm was infectious.

Pyro the human freak show ate fire and the Sinisters closed the show.

LSP holds monthly show worth checking out. For information call Dave or Leeroy at 622-9007.

Goo Goo Dolls dazzle Federation Hall

By Amanda Weber

The largest on-campus university bar in Canada played host to a Buffalo-based band, the Goo Goo Dolls, on Monday, Jan. 22.

University of Waterloo's Federation Hall was full of excited "Goo" fans when the guys took the stage.

The Universal Honey kicked the night off around 9:30 p.m. with an hour long set. Although the crowd was there to see the Goo Goo Dolls, they did give the opening act the attention they deserved.

The members of the Goo Goo Dolls, Robby Takac, bassist/vocalist, Johnny Rzeznik, guitarist/vocalist and Mike Malinin, the band's new drummer, made their appearance around 10:30 p.m. They, too, played an hour long set with an encore at the end.

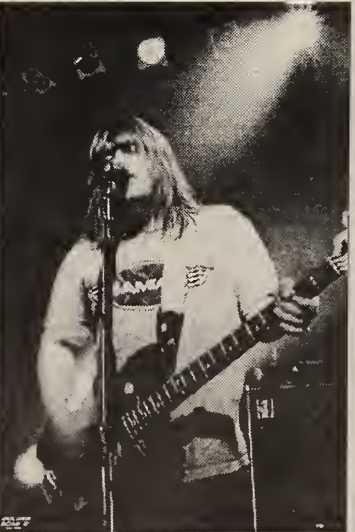
The crowd enjoyed the show and showed their appreciation for the music by moshing. As more and more people got involved in the body slamming, the band seemed to get into the show more.

The deafening volume of the Goo Goo Dolls didn't seem to bother the university crowd, as more and more people rushed to the stage to see the

show better.

Takac surprised many by bouncing around the stage in bare feet for the entire performance. He also seemed to enjoy getting the crowd going as he kept talking to people fortunate enough to be at the foot of the stage.

The Goo Goo Dolls have begun to receive the recognition they have



Robby Takac, Goo Goo Dolls bassist, performs at Fed Hall Jan. 22.

(Photo by Amanda Weber)

been working toward for the past 10 years with the release of their latest album, *A Boy Named Goo*. The album has gone gold in Canada and near-platinum in the U.S.

The show hit its highest point when the band played its most recognizable song, Name. The single has been on the *Billboard* 100 charts since its release 14 weeks ago.

With the success of *A Boy Named Goo*, the guys have begun to tour and make appearances on late night talk shows. A recent stint on *Late Night with David Letterman* was cancelled because there was not enough time on the show for the band to perform.

Although they were upset, Takac said it was like waking up on Christmas morning, to find you have been robbed. The guys have been rescheduled for the show.

Although some people left the show with sore, ringing ears, it is probably safe to say the \$10 entry fee was well spent. The Goo Goo Dolls performance will more than likely guarantee a return visit to the K-W area.

Watch for the continued success of this band.

CLIFF & CLEO

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STAY TUNED

Entertainment

Dusk 'til Dawn: horror and humor

By Kean Doherty

It's *Dracula* versus *The Magnificent Seven*. *Nosferatu* against *The Dirty Dozen*.

The latest film from Robert Rodriguez, *Dusk 'til Dawn*, is a romp through horror and neo-film noir territory.

Rodriguez, who gave on-screen violence a new meaning in films like *Desperado* and *El Mariachi*, combines a rollicking piece of Americana pitted against unspeakable evil in this latest film.

The film's central characters, Seth and Richard Gecko, are Rodriguez classics. Played to the hilt by George Clooney (Seth) and Quentin Tarantino (Richard), these two characters are unrepentant, resourceful stone killers and criminals.

In fact, this movie has earmarks of Tarantino's influence; the bloody shootouts, the quirky dialogue and cartoonish violence resemble that seen in *Pulp Fiction* and *Reservoir Dogs*.

The film itself is shot somewhere in East Texas, where a manhunt is on to find the Gecko brothers, who have shot up a bank, taken a hostage and are trying to escape to Mexico.

Their violent and gory campaign runs head-on into the more serene

journey of a faithless minister, Jacob Fuller, who is running to Mexico to try and reclaim his lost faith.

Fuller, played straight by Tarantino-veteran Harvey Keitel, is a no-nonsense preacher bent on taking his two kids, Kate (Juliette Lewis) and Scott (Edward Liu), on a safe and normal holiday south of the border.

Fuller and his family are taken hostage by the maniacal Gecko brothers and it is up to Jacob to get them over the border in his motor-home.

The heat of the moment is almost palpable, as Jacob tries to sweet talk a border guard while his daughter is held as ransom in the motor-home's toilet.

In a hilarious twist, the border guard, one of three characters played by Cheech Marin, boards the motor home to inspect the inside. He opens the door to the bathroom only to find Kate (Juliette Lewis) sitting on the toilet.

The group eventually ends up at a seedy Mexican bar, aptly named the Titty Twister, which in reality, is a

den for vampires who prey on that most American of vocations, truck drivers.

Every conceivable type of vampire ever seen on the big screen, from *Dracula* to *Fright Night*-type vampires, combine to rip and tear their victims with frightening gusto, and explode in swaths of green and red gore when they are preyed upon themselves.

Other than some over or just plain bad acting from Lewis, who can't seem to escape airhead characters, and Tarantino, who should stay behind the camera, the acting is suitably campy and believable.

Clooney, who is the hunk-du-jour on the TV drama, *ER*, is very creepy as Seth, and Keitel has found a niche in quirky, violent movies.

The best part of the movie, though, is seeing Marin's hilarious performances as a border guard, fast-talking doorman and befuddled gangster. He has finally found a home after all those years as a drug-addled half of Cheech and Chong.

movie review



Dusk 'til Dawn

Star: George Clooney

Punk-rock boy



First-year electronics engineering student Jack Moons plays bass for punk band United Kingdom's last show Jan. 26, at the Cambridge Steelworkers Hall.

(photo by Samantha Craggs)

Sense and Sensibility provides a '90s appeal for viewers

By Deborah Everest-Hill

Arriving at the theatre, I was surprised to find the line of patrons extending down the block and around the corner.

After only a few minutes of the movie, the attraction to two-time Golden Globe winner *Sense and Sensibility* was understandable.

Because the movie is based on Jane Austen's novel, people may expect the drama and tragedy characteristic of a 19th century classic; however, people likely do not expect the humor and wit of an English comedy.

Sense and Sensibility is a film of foils, flirtation and folly, in which two sisters fall prey to the schemes and lies of young men who want to marry the right girl with the right amount of money.

Directed by two-time Oscar winner Ang Lee from a screenplay by Emma Thompson, *Sense and Sensibility* explores the contrasts between rich and poor, city and country and sense and sensibility.

After the death of their father and a life of relative luxury, Elinor, played by Emma Thompson, and Marianne, played by Kate Winslet, are deprived of their family fortune.

Forced to move from their home to a simple cottage in the country,

movie review



Sense and Sensibility

Star: Emma Thompson

Elinor and Marianne, along with the rest of their family, soon feel out-of-place among their rich neighbors.

The family's time in the country is characterized by happiness, humor, humility and honesty, while their time spent in the city is characterized by stuffiness, snobbery and deception.

Elinor falls in love with Hugh Grant's character Edward Ferrars, a gentleman who displays the honor, duty and pride she so strongly believes in. Despite her strong feelings, Elinor's practical nature prevents her from defying social

conventions and expressing her love. Marianne, on the other hand, refuses to hide her feelings and gives way to her passion for an impulsive playboy-type.

What makes this film such a pleasure to watch is the even balance of tragedy and comedy. One minute the audience is close to tears and the next it is bursting out in laughter.

Lee's careful planning of costumes, set and cinematography bring Austen's 19th century novel to life. The film takes on the appearance of an older movie aside from the presence of relatively new ac-

tors. In addition to its interesting plot and well written script, the film's hilarious scenes and characters poke fun at the melodrama and social conventions of the time.

Thompson, Grant and Winslet give believable performances. Grant is particularly funny, tentatively slinking from one embarrassing scene to the next, and

Thompson and Winslet's characters illustrate the opposing personalities of two sisters.

If you have not managed to read more than a few pages of the novel, you might consider the movie.

The story is interesting and the acting not only matches the story's quality, it gives the movie a '90s appeal.



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Sports

Entertainment and sports editor: Kean Doherty 748-5366

Condors Corner

Student athletes prosper from challenges

By Kean Doherty

So often as not these days, the almighty buck determines the ebb and flow of amateur sport.

In this era of fiscal restraint I have to agree that athletic endeavors must bow to academic needs.

Nowhere is this more prevalent than in collegiate athletics and for that matter, at Conestoga College.

Gone are men's and women's basketball, men's and women's volleyball and a myriad of other sports.

They might as well call the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre

the Kenneth E. Hunter funeral home.

However, there is one redeeming factor: the student-athletes that flourish in the remaining programs.

A peer of mine, who will remain nameless, once wrote — in an award-winning article I might add, — that athletes playing varsity sports should "give up the dream."

On that point I have to disagree with my esteemed colleague.

Right here at the college we have some of the finest student-athletes in the province, maybe even in the country.

Along with full courseloads and legitimate part-time jobs, they juggle the demands of practise and competition. Nowhere have I heard any of them utter a word about playing professionally or moving on to more prestigious programs.

I have seen and talked to some of these athletes and I am impressed with their intelligence, wit and candor.

None of them are like the trash-talking, prima donna basketball and football behemoths from enormous American universities — few of whom can readily be called

student-athletes. They are the ones who should give up the dream.

While their athletic prowess can rarely be questioned, so few of them ever make the big bucks in the NBA and the NFL. And sorry, but basket-weaving courses just don't cut it in the real world.

Student-athletes in Canada and at Conestoga usually have their feet firmly planted in the ground and their college existence rooted in academics, not athletics.

There are no perks, no insanely large so-called scholarships, no stadiums full of rabid fans and alumni.

They play to small crowds and smaller media, and at the end of their collegiate careers they gather up their diplomas and strike out into the world, secure in the knowledge their education means something to employers.

The government will continue to cut and colleges will slice athletic programs. But rest assured, what teams remain will have classy, intelligent young men and women playing on them. They will represent their colleges well, and go on to normal lives as productive citizens.

Some dream indeed.

Ball hockey starts with a bang

By Blake Ellis

They are not your ordinary hockey players. They have helmets, sticks and gloves, but their wardrobe also includes jogging pants or shorts.

It hardly seems enough to protect a player from the hard rubber ball or the occasional high stick.

Conestoga's intramural ball hockey league has started another season and plays its matches on Mondays and Thursdays between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the gym of the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

On Jan. 17, the Spanish Fire Flies faced off against the Demolition.

After an evenly matched first half, the game was tied at two. Scorers were Brent Witmore and Jamie Riedel of the Spanish Fire Flies and Dean McDonald and Brad Sacsh of the Demolition.

The Spanish Fire Flies took the lead in the second half with a goal by Witmore and then another quick goal which went through the goalie's legs and gave Witmore a hat trick.

Not to be outdone, the Demolition went on a tear, scoring four goals, two by McDonald, and one each by Don Lidster and Warren Biesel, which put the final score at 6-4.

On Jan. 22, the Spanish Fire Flies took on the Grizzlies.

The Grizzlies dominated from the start as they scored five times in the first half of play. But Jason Harnett of the Fire Flies ripped a shot at the Grizzlies' net to put his team on the board.

At the beginning of the second half, the Fire Flies scored two more goals put them within two of the Grizzlies. The Grizzlies replied again to may the score 6-3.

The Spanish Fire Flies came alive with the score 7-4, scoring three goals. The Grizzlies then took the lead again but Roger Wardel scored his second goal to leave the game at an 8-8 draw.

Grizzlies' goal scorers were Jamie Savoie with six and Shawn Teel and Dave Streby with singles.

The second game on Jan. 22, pitted the Demolition against the Black Angels. The game was a lopsided contest from the start as the Demolition scored eight goals before the Black Angels were able to put one in the Demolition net near the end of the first half.

The second half was evenly matched but the Black Angels were not able to catch the Demolition.

Each team scored three goals a piece in the final period to put the score at 13-4 for the Demolition.

Goal scorers for the Demolition were Dean McDonald with four, Kevin Hewitt with three, Ben Dover with three and Harry Joda scoring two.

Rob Aszmies completed the hat trick for the Black Angel squad and Glen Pool contributed a single goal.

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